

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

April 17th, 2016

“Every word of GOD is pure:
HE is a shield unto them
that put their trust in HIM”

PROVERBS 30:5

JOSEPH D. MURPHY, PASTOR

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April 17th, 2016

Schedule of Services

Sunday School 10:00 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

Happy Birthday!

Betty Groover—17th, Shirley Shanks—21st,

Colin Young—17th, Tyler Richards—23rd,

WISE UNTO SALVATION

***“...THE HOLY SCRIPTURES...ARE ABLE TO MAKE THEE WISE UNTO SALVATION
THROUGH FAITH WHICH IS IN CHRIST JESUS.” (2 TIMOTHY 3:15)***

Through the preaching of the Holy Scriptures, God makes His people wise unto salvation. Through the light of the Gospel, the testimony of CHRIST, He makes us to see our great need to be saved from our sins; He gives us wisdom to see in the light of CHRIST, the wisdom of our Heavenly Father, in appointing His Son to be our Saviour.

What a wise thing God has done in appointing His Son to be the Saviour of His people! In appointing His Son, our Heavenly Father has appointed a saviour who *shall not fail*; for He *shall* save His people from their sins. The scriptures declare of Him, that *“whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.” PSALM 1:3*

Beloved, you have believed on Him who *shall not fail*—for he shall not lose any that the Father has given Him to save! Everything CHRIST does prospers!

Through the Gospel of CHRIST, HE has opened to our view a conviction of our own depravity and sin, and has shown us our desperate need to come to His Son *alone* for salvation. Sinner, who else would you come to? *“Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.” PSALM 73:25*

Beloved, it is HE alone that has *ALL POWER* in heaven and in earth; in the Gospel of Christ, God makes us to see...that we must come to Him, confessing *“...if you are willing, you can make me clean.”*

Through the preaching of Christ, the Holy Spirit makes Christ to be our wisdom unto salvation.

Friend, wisdom is trusting HIM who has *all power for all your salvation; now* that's wisdom! May God give us His grace in CHRIST, to do just that.

PASTOR

BAPTISM

"...PHILIP OPENED HIS MOUTH, AND BEGAN AT THE SAME SCRIPTURE, AND PREACHED UNTO HIM JESUS. AND AS THEY WENT ON THEIR WAY, THEY CAME UNTO A CERTAIN WATER: AND THE EUNUCH SAID, SEE, HERE IS WATER; WHAT DOTH HINDER ME TO BE BAPTIZED? AND PHILIP SAID, IF THOU BELIEVEST WITH ALL THINE HEART, THOU MAYEST. AND HE ANSWERED AND SAID, I BELIEVE THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE SON OF GOD." ACTS 8:35-37

Baptism is for everyone who believes the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Philip asked the eunuch one question when he requested to be baptized. *"If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest."* He answered, *"I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."* You know the rest of the story, Philip baptized the eunuch and *"he went on his way rejoicing."* Baptism is for believers, it is their public confession of faith in Him.

Peter says it is an *"answer of a good conscience toward God"* (1 PETER 3:21). Baptism is identification with the Lord in His appointed and sacrificial death (ACTS 2:23), in His appointed burial (1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-5) and in His appointed resurrection from the dead (MATTHEW 16:21). We only believe the gospel by the Lord's appointed power and grace (ACTS 13:48, EPHESIANS 1:19-20, 1 THESSALONIANS 5:9).

Believers are not baptized *to be saved*; they are baptized because *they have been saved* by the Lord's grace (EPHESIANS 2:8-9).

Believers are not baptized to put away our sin, they are baptized because Christ has already put away their sin by His sacrifice unto death (HEBREWS 9:26).

Believers are not baptized to be regenerated or sanctified, they are baptized because they have already been regenerated by the Holy Spirit and made new creatures in Christ (2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, EPHESIANS 2:1-4).

Believing the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is a powerful miracle of the Lord's mighty and sovereign grace (2 TIMOTHY 1:9). Those who are brought to Christ in saving faith are not ashamed to own, submit and identify with Him, His gospel and His people (ROMANS 1:16, 2 TIMOTHY 1:12). It is always the believer's delight and joy to obey the Lord in believer's baptism. While it is not essential to salvation, it is essential to our obedience to the Lord who commanded every believer to be baptized (MARK 16:16).

TOM HARDING

HE SHALL NOT FAIL

“BEHOLD MY SERVANT, WHOM I UPHOLD; MINE ELECT, IN WHOM MY SOUL DELIGHTETH; I HAVE PUT MY SPIRIT UPON HIM: HE SHALL BRING FORTH JUDGMENT TO THE GENTILES.” ISAIAH 42:1

This prophecy is concerning the coming of the Messiah, the emphasis being upon the person and work of Christ. The Father speaks of him who is to come in highest regard and affection. The Lord Jesus Christ is seen in his incarnation glorifying his Father, and accomplishing everlasting salvation for his elect. God the Father upholds and delights in him, because of who he is and the perfect work which he performs. In great measure, his people behold him as the Father beholds him, and delights in him for the same reason as well.

We uphold and delight in him, in our hearts, by faith. He is the singular object of our faith as we see his eternal power, Godhead, and perfect work in his sinless humanity. He alone is the object of our worship, the Redeemer of our souls, the delight of our hearts. His people behold him, as he is revealed in his glorious person and perfect work, as our substitute. He shall not fail his Father, nor did he fail his people. We dare not look, nor desire to look, to any one other than who God commands and invites us to behold—The Lord Jesus Christ!

TOMMY ROBBINS

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Beloved, the Gospel is *who* the Lord Jesus is, *what* He did, and *where* He is now; according to the scriptures, and not according to men.

(1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-4)

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LITTLE ERRORS?

When Satan tempted Eve, he did not begin with open error. He did not begin with an open rejection or denial of what God said. Eve would have never swallowed that. He began with a slight modification of what God said. *“Hath God said you shall not eat of every tree” (GENESIS 3:1)*. No, God said there was only one tree from which they were forbidden to eat. But through that slight modification the door was opened for a complete denial of what God said, *“Ye shall not surely die” (GENESIS 3:4)*. Big errors always begin small. And small errors always turn into big ones! The only way to prevent this is to believe exactly what God says and reject even the slightest deviation from it! In reality, little errors are like little sins. There is no such thing!

TODD NIBERT